

# ENGLAND'S NEW GREAT BEAUTY.



THE HON. MRS. GEORGE KEPPEL, THE BEAUTY, AND HER LITTLE DAUGHTER.

(From London Modern Society of July 22.)

The great topic of discussion is the action of the Prince of Wales with regard to Goodwood. For years he has been the guest of the Duke of Richmond. As usual, one of the gentlemen-in-waiting forwarded to His Grace the list of those guests His Royal Highness desired for the house party. The Duke declined to admit a married lady named by the Prince within his doors. To the reply of the member of the household that the lady was received at court came the answer that she should never at any rate darken his doors.

The Prince of Wales, not accustomed to interference with his wishes, thereupon stated he would not become the Duke's guest, thus breaking a succession of thirty pleasant annual parties. In reply the Duke addressed such a dignified yet firm letter to his future sovereign that no answer was vouchsafed. All this was the prelude to the announcement that the Prince would this year honor Mr. and Mrs. Willie James, at whose house the young lady about whom the dispute arose is now to be a welcome guest. To add to the confusion, the Duke and Duchess of York are to be the guests of the strong-minded Duke.

THE Prince of Wales has a badly besmirched in the Hooley scandal new friend, and her name last year. Mrs. Keppel is the beauty of the hour. It is at her shrine that England's future King has been worshipping in the most popular of London society papers tell of a predilection for the society of pretty Mrs. Keppel, who took advantage thereof to make her friend, Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago, and the latter's niece, Miss Julia Grant, acquainted with the future Emperor of India.

Mrs. Keppel has completely supplanted the Countess of Warwick as the flame of the Prince, and the fair chateleine of Warwick Castle has ceased to exercise the jealousy of the Princess of Wales and has gone to join all that cohort of fair ladies who in time gone by have been the object of the admiration of the Prince, but who are now merely his very good friends.

The Hon. George Keppel was formerly an officer in the Highland regiment, but is now in the wine business, the junior partner of a Pall Mall retail firm, and in spite of the assistance of the Prince in helping him to push the wines of his house, everybody is wondering how on earth Mr. and Mrs. Keppel are able to make both ends meet at the pace at which they are going. For their income, independent of the wine business, is less than \$3,000 all told, and it is doubtful whether George Keppel is able to make as much more by selling wines to the friends of the Earl of Albemarle, who was so

## DESPERATE LOOKING DRAGON FROM JAPAN.

WHEN Mr. William R. Townsend returned to New York recently from the far away Orient he brought with him one of the most remarkable and valuable specimens of the bronze work of Japan ever seen in this country.

The specimen is a flexible bronze dragon eight feet in length. It is of a beautiful mottled green, of typical Oriental workmanship, and is made up of hundreds of separate pieces, each one carefully finished and fitted by hand in the marvellous manner that the patient Japs do all work of this nature. Five years were occupied in the building of the dragon. The dragon is as flexible and pliable as a snake, and the limbs, body and head of the strange creature can be twisted and turned in any direction.

The artist, Suzuki, when he had finished the masterpiece, wrote what he intended to be a history of his work, which Mr. Townsend has in his possession. It is in the form of a scroll and reads, freely translated, as follows:

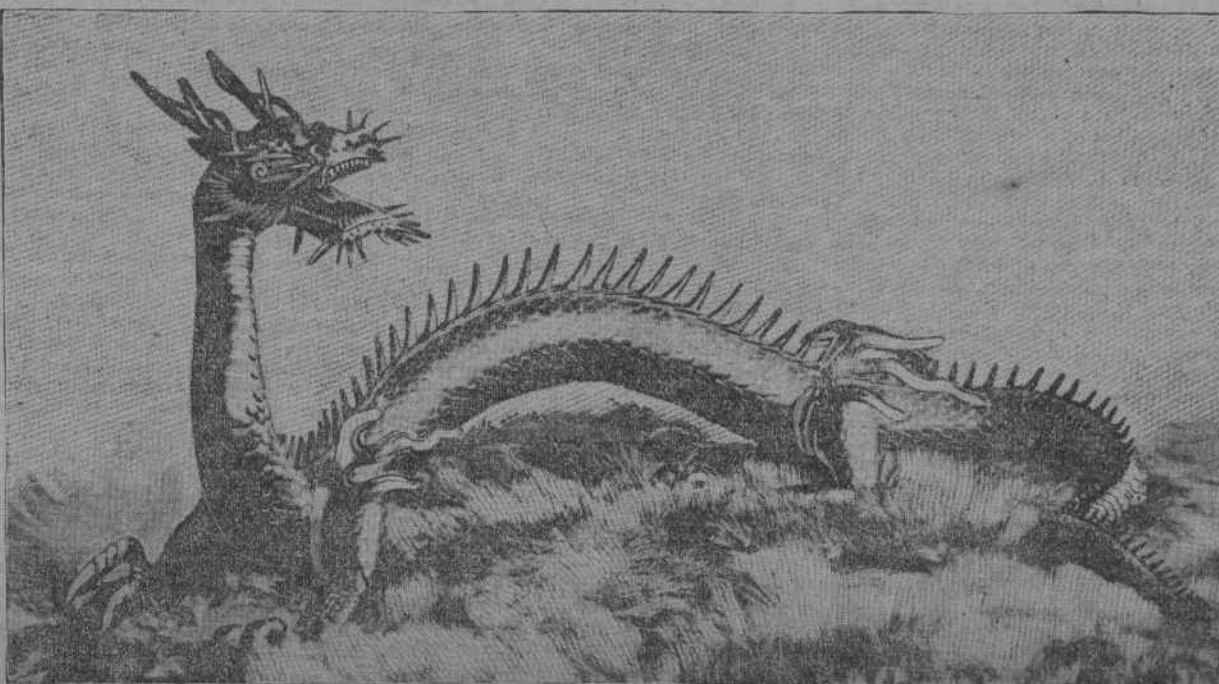
Among our Oriental nations the dragon from ancient days is considered as an emblem of the highest type of holiness and dignity, and hence different honorific styles by which sovereigns are addressed have reference to this imaginary animal. It is eulogized by poets' pens and immortalized by artists' brushes and sculptors' chisels, but so far I am not aware of any dragon worked in jointed metal, or at least that I would consider as a masterpiece, existing in this country.

I have been regretting this fact for some

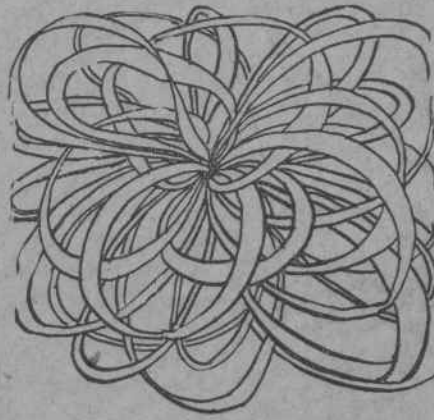
years, and at last formed a resolution in my mind to make one myself, and after spending over 1,500 days, I was able to turn out an "Okimono," or flexible bronze dragon, which I consider as entirely unsurpassed by anything of the kind that exists in the world at present.

I have been ordered to make a sacred bronze mirror, to represent the departed spirit of the late Empress Dowager, and this I consider as the greatest honor conferred on my work. This I mention because I think the dragon shares a part of that honor.

In appreciation of the favor shown to me by one who so highly esteems the dragon, I have written this. CHOKICHI SUZUKI, Artist to the Imperial Household.



THE FLEXIBLE BRONZE "OKIMONO," BROUGHT TO NEW YORK FROM JAPAN.



Who  
Has Won  
the Open  
Admiration  
of the  
Prince of Wales,  
Supplanted  
the Famously  
Beautiful  
Countess of  
Warwick,  
and Caused a  
Royal Row  
Between the  
Queen, the  
Prince and  
the Nobility.



THE PROFILE OF THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK CONSIDERED PERFECT BY CONNOISSEURS.

of the Prince on the strength of the admiration of England's future King for his wife.

Of course there is an immense amount of ill-natured gossip about the Keppels just at present. There always is about the fair favorite of the Prince for the time being, since she naturally becomes the cause of much feminine jealousy. But the fact of the matter remains that the Keppels are very poor, very smart, very extravagant, without visible means of support adequate to their style of life, and that the Prince is deeply devoted to Mrs. Keppel, who is a very brilliant, witty, and amusing woman.

Throughout the past season the Prince has never failed to add their names to the list of guests of every entertainment organized in his honor. They are now going to spend the next few weeks at Marlborough, at the same hotel as the Prince, it is understood as his guests, and they were at West Dean Park last week for the Goodwood races. Mrs. Willie James having expressed her readiness to receive them as members of the Prince's party after the old Duke of Richmond had written to inform the equerry of His Royal Highness that Mr. and Mrs. George Keppel should "never darken his doors."

The equerry of the Prince of Wales in his letter to the Duke of Richmond makes a strong point of the fact that Mrs. George Keppel has never ceased being received at Court, and that since the Queen, whose strictness in all matters pertaining to the good name of the women of her Court is notorious, had no fault to find with Mrs. Keppel, there was no reason whatsoever why the Duke of Richmond should refuse to receive under his roof the reigning beauty of the hour.

It is a noteworthy fact that the Queen has in the same manner continued to receive Lady Warwick. Mrs. Cornwallis West, Lady de Grey, Mrs. Arthur Paget, Mlle. de Fougères, and a score more beauties of the past and of the present, whose names have at one time or another been associated by kindly gossip or by calumny with that of the future King of England.

Queen Victoria frequently without noise closes the doors of her Court to ladies for no other offence than that they have been talked about if she has any reason to suppose that the talk is warranted by fact. As every one of the ladies mentioned above has never been subjected to any disciplinary measures on the part of Her Majesty, it may be taken for granted that she has convinced herself that the attentions of her pleasure-loving eldest son to the fair ones in question have been of an innocent character.

It is perfectly true that the Princess of Wales has at times given such marked and public demonstrations of ill will to the Countess of Warwick as to give rise to an impression that it was due to a sentiment of jealousy and to a belief that the intimacies of admiration for a fashionable beauty, people may take it for granted that it is because there is nothing to conceal and that the royal attentions are in every sense of the word platonic and innocent. It is perfectly true that the Princess of Wales has at times given such marked and public demonstrations of ill will to the Countess of Warwick as to give rise to an impression that it was due to a sentiment of jealousy and to a belief that the intimacies of admiration for a fashionable beauty, people may take it for granted that it is because there is nothing to conceal and that the royal attentions are in every sense of the word platonic and innocent.

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## HIS FIRST BATH KILLED HIM.

MANY physicians assert in opposition to the sentiment of the best society that frequent bathing is neither necessary nor healthful. Their attitude derives support from a case reported from Scotland. The death has just occurred at Glasgow of a noted Scotch character named Michael Brown, who for years made a bare living as a professional angler on the Clyde and died in a poorhouse. He hated the sight of soap and water, and except when by accident he fell or was pushed into the river when angling had not washed for years. When removed to the workhouse he protested that if an official washed him he would die in a quarter of an hour. They spared him the ordeal of an ordinary bath, but as he was as thick as a negro soap he died from brouillie, it is alleged.